

**Pawtuxet River Authority
And Watershed Council
Historic Harris Mill
618 Main Street
Coventry, RI 02816
401-615-7039
www.pawtuxet.org**

**Monthly Board Meeting
May 1, 2006**

**Board Members Present: Jim McCaughey, Robert Nero, Mike Jordon,
Arthur Langlais, Joseph Castellone, Jack Lancellotta, Louise
Pettinicchio, Brian Manning**

**Board Members Absent: Steve Insana, (excused), Scott Horton
(Warwick), (excused), Al Smith (excused)**

**Associate Board Members Present: Jack Donovan, John Pettinicchio,
Robert Zulegar**

**Associate Board Members Absent: Richard Dorr, Dan Meunier,
Vincent DiGiulio**

Guests:

Call to Order: Chairman Nero noting that a quorum was not present and called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.

Minutes from last meeting: Minutes from April 2006 read and accepted.

**Mark 860-774-0770 (home)
401-255-0785**

Report of Subcommittees:

a. Projects:

- April 8th Clean-Up at Echo Valley**

The PRA had a small turn out for this event. Louise passed out 40 flyers in the vicinity of this area but only one person from the community showed up to help with this clean-up event. John, Louise Brian and Bob from the PRA participated. This area is adjacent to a portion of the River Walk owned by the PRA referred to as the “Hope Spur”. An eroded stream is located in this area that needs to be repaired at a future date.

Chairman Nero stated that the PRA members need to tour all PRA owned property. Arthur requested a list of the PRA owned property – Chairman Nero will make that list available and will make a date to

tour the property. Arthur asked if this property had been surveyed – Chairman Nero stated that the property has not been surveyed and that there are no plans to do so in the immediate future.

- April 15th – Natick Dam**

Jim, Brian, Louise, Bob, Bob's Daughter Kara and Jack participated in the Clean-up. Because a dumpster was not placed here the clean-up was not completed at this time. An abandoned trailer was emptied and the wooded area along the river's edge was cleaned. The town came several days later and picked up the collected trash.

Chairman Nero stated that the PRA has been asked to take over this dam by the Town of West Warwick. The dam is currently owned by the Town of West Warwick the PRA paid the back taxes in order to take over control of the dam.

- April 22 – Saturday/Earth-day**

- i. Garden Street Cranston along Bud-Long Manor**

Dumpster provided by the City of Cranston with 8-10 people assisting with this clean-up. Joe stated that he received many phone calls expressing their gratitude for cleaning this area. Joe stated that he would like to fence in the area around this stream for safety purposes. The City of Cranston owns this property and will be

pursued to pay for and install this fence.

Chairman Nero stated that after cleaning this area the volunteer also cleaned out a brook on this property along with an abutting wetland.

- Howard Property**

A clean-up event is scheduled for May 6th. This is a large scale clean-up on 48 acres of property owned by the PRA – intersection of Pontiac and Knight Street – entrance is at curve of the road. Chairman Nero will get dumpster and some outside groups will be helping out. The clean-up will start at 8:00 AM. Two 30 yard dumpsters are being donated by the City of Cranston. Chairman Nero stated that the goal of the PRA is to turn this property into a “Green Space.” Chairman Nero stated that the PRA currently has a \$31,000 grant to build a canoe launch in this area however the PRA does not own the land on which the launch is to be built – the DOT owns it and will sell it at fair market value. Joe asked if the PRA cannot secure ownership of the ¼ of an acre of land abutting this property do we have to reapply for the grant funds – Chairman Nero stated that he thinks we can still keep the grant and build the launch on another piece of property. Michel Jordon suggested that we table this topic until John can contact DOT and get information on the fair market value of this property.

- Fish Ladder Public Meeting – held on April 26th at the Shrinner’s**

facility in Cranston. The Narragansett Bay Estuary Program is helping out. The meeting was well attended (70 attendees). The public in attendance at this meeting demonstrated concern over removal of the dam and its effect on the local community.

- **Veteran's Square in West Warwick – Chairman Nero stated that he met with the Mayor of West Warwick regarding the property located at Veteran's Square. A \$46,000 grant is in place to conduct improvements on this property including adding parking to this area. The Mayor stated that the city would like to use the existing grant to get moving on making improvements to this property. The city will develop and put out an RFP. The PRA will meet with the city in the near future to discuss the city's plans for this property.**

- **River Fest – June 24th**

Bob, Louise and John met last month and came up with a list of about 40 potential sponsors for this event. John and Louise developed a mailing list based on this meeting. All potential sponsors will receive a membership package. They will be mailed this week. Jane Dane of Stuever Brothers/Royal Mills has offered to pay for fire works to be set off behind the Royal Mills. Louise stated that the Narragansett Indians may become involved with this event.

- **Annual Report is being prepared**

- **Annual Insurance Report will be submitted in May**
- **Hope Village Festival – week of July 3rd – PRA contributed \$250**
- **Chairman Nero invited the Board Members to his home on July 3rd.**

b. Finance:

No report for this month.

c. Nominating Committee

The Executive Committee will appoint a Nominating Committee over the next week and notify those members of their selection by e-mail/phone.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Next Meeting: June 5th, 2006